

**Subject:** Brief Status Report for the Oakland Estuary Project

Oakland Estuary Group,

Here is the October status report and a quick snap shot of November.

We had an excellent second press event with lots of coverage.

This past week as been a challenging one with the near misses with our own equipment and other logistical issues that are always present during water operations. If you plan on having issues and then you will not be surprised. I was still surprised. We had a 14 "pile pierce through our own salvage barge that cause a frantic and epic save by our cleanup crews. Their 22 hour day saved the possible release of 100 gallons of diesel. Job well done by Pacific States Environmental, Global, and Seal Marine. Close call indeed, nothing like getting a call at 10:00 pm about your barge and that it is sinking.

To date we have not had a reportable spill, yes I will have one this week since I just said that. The Captain Al was scheduled to be lifted out of the water this Saturday but the vessel unexpectedly shifted and was sent back to a staging area for further analysis. Needless to say the crews from both US EPA and CalRecycle have been working tirelessly and putting in 12 to 20 hour days. Our enforcement partners (OPD, APD, USCG, and DFW) also have been busy chasing down the illegal moor outs. I am happy to say we have cleaned out the estuary. This is not to say we have three new ones this week but we are working on the new campers.

The water board was able to motivate/negotiate with the current land owner of Site 6 to dispose of 700 to 800 cy of contaminated soil that was directly in the estuary. Thank you Mark Johnson, Adrienne Klein, USACE, and others for making this happen. The shoreline is significantly cleaner by this action. We also owe a thank you to Alameda Marina and Sir Brock for storing the seized vessels. This was not a pretty event and we had one former owner throw a bike in the water in protest, threaten our fearless attorney, and then try to sink his boat in front of us. Needless to say I had a plan for that just in case. We had pumps on the sinking vessel within 14mins. All the vessels are now safely on land and being processed.

We are over 50% complete and heading for the final task list. We have some large vessel to process in the next three weeks. As of 11/14 CalRecycle has expended \$579, 322. We are hoping to remove a large barge this week with US EPA resources and continue to collect dead and abandoned vessels.

Both the USCG and USACE will be assisting later this month. By December we will have all resources working towards a common goal. Tsunami debris has got nothing on us.

The project photo log is located here.

<https://plus.google.com/photos/114742674251140744947/albums>

May your day be spill free.

Todd Thalhamer

# **Interim Programmatic Report**

## **Oakland Estuary Enhancement Project 2013**

### **October 2013 Field Notes**

#### **Background**

In late 2011 CalRecycle staff was approached by United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) about submitting a grant for the removal of marine debris in the San Francisco Bay Area based on previous successful cleanup projects on the Petaluma and Sacramento Rivers. After reviewing the grant requirements, staff determined that the USEPA funds were not sufficient and too restrictive to allow for a substantial project to be completed; however, USEPA forwarded an additional grant program managed by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) that derived funding from the settlement for the 2011 Cosco Busan spill. During this time, CalRecycle staff was also contacted by the City of Oakland Police Department (OPD) who separately requested cleanup assistance in the Oakland Estuary and surrounding areas. Since the USEPA grant was focused on mitigating impacts in the eastern San Francisco Bay, staff focused in on the Oakland Estuary with OPD. After a preliminary site visit, staff determined the estuary and surrounding area contained enough solid waste in the form of disposal sites consisting of marine debris, abandoned vessels and docks, industrial marine equipment, and other navigational hazards to develop an initial grant request for the NFWF's 2012 Cosco Busan Oils Spill Settlement - Recreational Use Grant Program.

In April 2012, staff submitted an initial grant request for a 50 percent funding match by NFWF for the proposed \$1.3 million dollar cleanup. The proposal concept was to remove disposal sites consisting of marine debris, abandoned vessels, old piers and docks, and navigational hazards from the estuary to provide health and safety and visual enhancements to the public and the estuary environment. The long-term outcome of the project was to increase the level of safe recreational opportunities by the public by removing this debris and navigational hazards and to return more of the estuary to a beneficial use. The enhancement project will target the inlets of the Oakland Middle and Inner Harbors south to the San Leandro Bay and end at the Bay Farm Island Bridge. In September 2012, staff was notified that NFWF received 78 pre-proposals requesting a total of \$34.5 million and only 40 projects were asked for full proposals. CalRecycle's Oakland Estuary Enhancement Project was one of the projects asked to submit a full proposal. In April 2013 CalRecycle was awarded a \$650,000 grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

Additionally, CalRecycle staff has been diligently working with local, state, and federal agencies concerning the permitting and mitigation of the solid waste in the estuary. On April 18, 2013, the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) was also able to contribute to the estuary project by approving a dry dock development for Bay Ship and Yatch Company (BSY) in the Oakland Estuary. As part of the BSY project, the BCDC included impacts mitigation that obligated BSY to provide \$75,000 in funds to CalRecycle's cleanup project in the Oakland Estuary. Specifically, these funds and in-kind services would be directed to remove a derelict dock and marine debris at Union Point Park and two derelict vessels. In addition to funding, BSY would make its facilities available for the salvaging and dismantling of two derelict vessels that are submerged offshore of Union Point Park. The use of these funds would be separate from the NFWF grant and tracked separately.

CalRecycle staff has also been working with USEPA, U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and regarding additional resources, permits and hazardous waste issues. Based on past removals,

CalRecycle requested its federal partners perform a hazardous waste assessment on four derelict vessels. On May 31, 2013, USEPA notified CalRecycle staff that the results were positive for PCBs, heavy metals, and asbestos on the former vessels and agreed to further assist CalRecycle in removing these vessels.

The project includes the removal of disposal sites, including up to eighteen sites containing illegal marine debris, thirty seven sites containing sunken vessels, two sites containing sunken barges, three sites containing abandoned docks, and 20 to 25 sites containing derelict vessels and illegally moored vessels in the estuary, which include recreational as well as commercial vessels. Cleanup assistance was requested from the USACE, USEPA, and the USCG to investigate the abandoned vessels and remove and dispose of hazardous waste, universal wastes, and other regulated wastes, including petroleum products. USEPA has committed \$3 million for its part of the project, which includes the removal of two massive, sunken vessels and mitigation of toxic substances. The other federal agencies have also committed to assist CalRecycle in this project. Their involvement will depend on the type and amount of oil and hazardous materials encountered. Staff has worked with OPD and its stakeholders to develop a removal priority list and will implement each site based on the environmental impact, navigational hazard, and cost effectiveness of each site. Additionally, CalRecycle has partnered with the State Lands Commission and the City of Oakland District Attorney's Office to assist with the enforcement on the illegally moored derelict vessels in the estuary and cost recovery issues.

#### **Participating Agencies as of November 1, 2013**

The Oakland Estuary cleanup partnership includes the following entities:

- California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle)
- U.S. EPA (USEPA)
- U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
- San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC)
- Oakland Police Department (OPD)
- Alameda Police Department (APD)
- Alameda County Sheriff's Office (ACSO)
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW)
- State Lands Commission
- East Bay Regional Parks
- Port of Oakland
- California Department of Boating and Waterways
- San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (SFBRWQCB)
- Bay Keeper
- California Coastal Commission
- Alameda Marina
- Bay Ship and Yacht

## Operations

### September 2013

On September 9, 2013, USEPA mobilized its resources and began removing sediment from the vessel Captain Al. USEPA pumped over 500,000 gallons of water and sediment through their treatment system and installed the rigging to remove the Captain Al in late September. On September 23, 2013, CalRecycle authorized its contractor, Pacific States Environmental, to proceed with the Oakland Enhancement Project. Personnel, heavy equipment, and resources were mobilized on September 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013. A staging area was created at Site 6, 2229 Clement Ave, in the City of Alameda.

Tasks included the mobilization of heavy equipment, site setup, construction of a decontamination pad, set up for a job trailer, and the removal of 200 feet of shore debris along the channel of the Oakland Estuary. Enforcement of the 23 illegally moored vessels by State Lands, Oakland and Alameda PD, DFW, USCG, and ACSO also took place during the first week of the project. These vessels were all posted with a 30 day notice to leave the Oakland Estuary or find a legal mooring facility. Five new vessels were also tagged for trespassing later in the month by State Lands, DFW, and OPD.

CalRecycle expended \$43,871.12 and disposed of 82 tons of wood debris (e.g. old piles, piers, and structural timber) and 280 tons of concrete decking and walls. Resources were demobilized from the project on September 27, 2013, and the project started again on October 7, 2013, under the new funding cycle. The project photo log provides a field view of the debris area and removal operations from Site 6.

### October 2013

During October USEPA switched the sedimentation removal from the Captain to the other abandoned tug called the Respect. CalRecycle resources along with State Lands, OPD, APD, Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) removed all the illegally moored vessels from Site 1a and 1b, except for one recently anchored sailboat, Site 5, and a new anchored site across from Coast Guard Island. Additional abatement actions by State Lands, OPD, APD, and DFW cleared the project of illegally moored vessels in the estuary. All the seized vessels were temporarily stored at the Alameda Marina. Without the support from Alameda Marina, this action would have been extremely difficult to manage. A total of eight vessels were seized by State Lands.

The contractor, Pacific States Environmental, removed 70% of the retaining wall along the shore of Site 6. The wall was not structurally sound and needed to be removed. The contractor removed a former houseboat from the Union Park Reflecting Pier – Site 4, and removed five sunken vessels and marine debris from Site 5. During the salvage operation only one vessel was brought up intact. All other vessels were brought to the surface in pieces. Fortunately no sheen was observed. The dive team assessed 50% of the sites and discovered a new debris field next to the Park Street Bridge that was associated with a former dive school and six new sunken vessels. Assigned Site 7 and 27 were signed to this project. During the last week of October a high wind event struck the estuary and three vessels were reported sunk. CalRecycle, USCG and OPD, responded to the hazards after no owners were located or responsible party responded. All three vessels were raised and removed under State Lands' authority as an environmental threat from petroleum and hazardous wastes. Two of the vessels had capsized and additional efforts were undertaken to abate the threats.

As of October 31, 2013, CalRecycle expended a total of \$357, 574.46 to remove 160 tons of debris and 320 tons of concrete. Sites 1, 4, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 27 and the shore line along the Alameda side were completed.

#### Photo Log

All project photos can be found at the following web link:

<https://plus.google.com/photos/114742674251140744947/albums>



DRAFT Removal Log
Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CALRECYCLE)

Location		Oakland Estuary										
Water Courses Impacted:		Oakland Estuary, San Leandro Bay, San Francisco Bay										
Version	2.3 - October 2013											
Site No.	Location Info	Description	Vessels	Depth	Enforcement	Funding Status	US EPA Assistance	Hazmat and Oil Potential	GPS Latitude	GPS Longitude	General Area	Comments
Site 1a/1b	CalRecycle	Illegally Moored Vessels	1 to 10	Varies	Yes	NFWF Match	No	Yes	37°47'20.48"	122°15'52.38"	Oakland Estuary	Various illegally moored vessels. Enforcement necessary. Debris deemed historic by State Lands. Site Deleted.
Site 2	CalRecycle	Marine Debris Sites (12 to 15 areas)	0	1 to 5 feet	No	<del>Deleted</del>	No	Yes	37°47'7.17"	122°15'5.30"	Oakland Estuary	
<del>Deleted - BSV Funds for Dock Only</del>												
Site 3	CalRecycle	Dock, Marine Debris, 3 Sunk Vessels	3	5 to 10 feet	Yes	NFWF Match	Yes	Yes	37°46'43.26"	122°14'38.06	Oakland Estuary	Deemed historic by State Lands. Requested federal assistance to raise the fishing vessel.
Site 4	CalRecycle	Marine Debris-Public Fishing Pier	2 to 3	5 feet	Yes	NFWF Match	No	Yes	37°46'33.77"	122°14'30.73"	Oakland Estuary	Marine debris/vessels located in or next to pier.
Site 5	CalRecycle	Illegally Moored Vessels +5 Sunk Vessels	5 to 10	5 to 10 feet	Yes	NFWF Match	No	Yes	37°46'31.28"	122°14'28.81"	Oakland Estuary	Various illegally moored and sunk vessels. Enforcement necessary. Requested assistance on the Captain Tug and Respect Tug. Cost to raise these two vessels (\$1.8 million)
Site 6	CalRecycle	Three Sunk Vessels and Two Barges	Yes	10 to 25 feet	Yes	Partial NFWF Match	Yes	Yes	37°46'22.42"	122°14'24.03"	Oakland Estuary	Owner removed vessels. Site Removed.
Site 7	CalRecycle	<del>Illegally Moored Vessels</del>	<del>3</del>	<del>NA</del>	<del>NA</del>	<del>Deleted</del>	<del>NA</del>	<del>NA</del>	<del>NA</del>	<del>NA</del>	<del>NA</del>	Four debris sites. One tug, one barge, two marine debris sites.
Site 8	CalRecycle	Vessel and Marine Debris	1	0 to 5 feet	Yes	NFWF Match	No	Yes	37°45'14.99"	122°13'18.40"	San Leandro Bay	Sunk sailboat, general area.
Site 9	CalRecycle	NEW-Sunk Sailboat 30 ft	1	5 to 10 feet	Yes	New Request	No	Yes	37°47'41.32"	122°19'13.51"	Oakland Inner Harbor	See NOAA Sheet 2012/2013 Marine Survey
Site 10	NOAA-12	Sunk Vessel 15 ft	1	12	Yes	New Request	No	Yes	37.794533	122.279908	Cable and Tunnel Area	See NOAA Sheet 2012/2013 Marine Survey
Site 11	NOAA-30	Sunk Vessel 24 ft	1	30	Yes	New Request	No	Yes	37.790786	122.274758	Cable and Tunnel Area	See NOAA Sheet 2012/2013 Marine Survey
Site 12	NOAA-17	Sunk Barge 102 ft	1	17	Yes	New Request	No	Yes	37.787531	122.270631	Pier to Brooklyn Basin	See NOAA Sheet 2012/2013 Marine Survey
Site 13	NOAA-20	Sunk Vessel 27 ft	1	20	Yes	New Request	No	Yes	37.787481	122.263964	Pier to Brooklyn Basin	See NOAA Sheet 2012/2013 Marine Survey
Site 14	NOAA-19a	Sunk Vessel 31 ft	1	19	Yes	New Request	No	Yes	37.786944	122.2622	Clinton Basin	See NOAA Sheet 2012/2013 Marine Survey
Site 15	NOAA-19b	Sunk Vessel 32 ft	1	19	Yes	New Request	No	Yes	37.786928	122.2622	Clinton Basin	See NOAA Sheet 2012/2013 Marine Survey
Site 16	NOAA-11	Sunk Vessel 24 ft	1	11	Yes	New Request	No	Yes	37.787006	122.261267	Clinton Basin	See NOAA Sheet 2012/2013 Marine Survey
Site 17	NOAA-27	Sunk Vessel 33 ft	1	27	Yes	New Request	No	Yes	37.782917	122.258806	Brooklyn Basin South	See NOAA Sheet 2012/2013 Marine Survey
Site 18	NOAA-20	Sunk Vessel 30 ft	1	20	Yes	New Request	No	Yes	37.781533	122.259436	Encinal Basin	See NOAA Sheet 2012/2013 Marine Survey
Site 19	NOAA-8	Sunk Vessel 22 ft	1	8	Yes	New Request	No	Yes	37.783189	122.254217	Brooklyn Basin South	See NOAA Sheet 2012/2013 Marine Survey
Site 20	NOAA-9a	Marine Debris 7 ft	1	9	Yes	New Request	No	Yes	37.784836	122.2462	Brooklyn Basin	See NOAA Sheet 2012/2013 Marine Survey
Site 21	NOAA-9b	Sunk Vessel 24 ft	1	9	Yes	New Request	No	Yes	37.784092	122.244933	Brooklyn Basin	See NOAA Sheet 2012/2013 Marine Survey
Site 22	NOAA-19c	Sunk Vessel 27 ft	1	19	Yes	New Request	No	Yes	37.774733	122.240894	Park St Bridge	See NOAA Sheet 2012/2013 Marine Survey
Site 23	NOAA-16	Marine Debris 24 ft	1	16	Yes	New Request	No	Yes	37.772625	122.239186	Park St Bridge	See NOAA Sheet 2012/2013 Marine Survey
Site 24	NOAA-16b	Sunk Vessel 15 ft	1	16	Yes	New Request	No	Yes	37.773531	122.324336	Bay Side Alameda	See NOAA Sheet 2012/2013 Marine Survey
Site 25	NOAA-29	Sunk Vessel 15 ft	1	29	Yes	New Request	No	Yes	37.774575	122.323214	Bay Side Alameda	See NOAA Sheet 2012/2013 Marine Survey
Site 26	CalRecycle	Sailboat/75% Submerged	1	5	No	New as of 10/6	No	Yes	37°47'18.26	122°19'52.4	Bay Side Alameda	Discovered 10/6 - Removed 10/8
Site 27	CalRecycle	Marine Debris	0	0 to 5 feet	No	New as of 10/14	No	No	37°46'53.06	122°15'25.38	Fortmann Basin	Additional Task - Removal of shore debris and trash
Site 28	CalRecycle	Sunk Vessels and Marine Debris	4 to 6	10 to 20 feet	No	New as of 10/22	No	Yes	37°46'18.52	122°14'9.30	Park St Bridge	Additional Task - Removal submerged debris field next to the bridge
Site 29	CalRecycle	Marine Debris Field	0	10 to 20 feet	No	New as of 10/22	No	Yes	37°46'17.55	122°14'6.19	Park St Bridge	Additional Task - Removal of four to five sunk vessels
General A	CalRecycle	Shore Debris and Misc Wastes	0	Varies	No	New Request	No	No	Varies	Varies	Bay Side Alameda	General cleanup of marine debris along the shores of the Alameda side
General B	CalRecycle	Shore Debris and Misc Wastes	0	Varies	No	New Request	No	No	Varies	Varies	Oakland Estuary	General cleanup of marine debris along the shores and inlet of the estuary

NOTE Site conditions are dynamic. New vessels and marine debris may be added. Locations are approximate.



